

News

MCRC recognizes superior achievers in ceremony

By **Sgt. Jimmie Perkins**
MARINE CORPS RECRUITING COMMAND

SAN DIEGO— The top performing Marine Corps recruiting stations from across the country were honored with the Fiscal Year 2003 Superior Achiever Awards, in a ceremony held Oct. 16.

Former Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Carl Mundy, and the Commanding General of the Marine Corps Recruiting Command, Maj. Gen. Christopher Cortez, had the honor of presenting these awards to the commanding officers of these recruiting stations. Other general officers in attendance were Brig. Gen. Joseph J. McMenamin, commanding general, Eastern Recruiting Region, and Brig. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr., commanding general, Western Recruiting Region.

The Superior Achiever Award was established in 1981 to recognize Marine Corps recruiting stations that achieve or exceed specific recruiting goals each fiscal year. Presentation of the Superior Achiever Award is traditionally made during the annual MCRC, National Commander's Conference. The recipients receive an engraved plaque from the Commandant of the Marine Corps to be displayed in their headquarters.

"The superior performance and professionalism of every Marine, sailor and civilian assigned to Marine Corps Recruiting Command, materially aided in the transformation of young Americans into United



Sgt. Jimmie Perkins

Marine Corps Recruiting Command recently recognized its top performing Recruiting Stations at the National Commander's Conference in San Diego on October 16, 2003.

States Marines, and to the building of the Marine Corps of the 21st Century," said Gen. Michael Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps, in the award citation.

Speaking to the 30 commanding officers present to accept the awards, Mundy recognized the contribution their Marines make towards the Marine Corps.

"There is nothing more important

that your Marines could be doing today for the Marine Corps than building its future," said the former Commandant. "I salute you for the fundamental work you do."

The award is a significant goal for the recruiters and support personnel assigned to the 48 recruiting stations around the nation.

"Back at the Recruiting Station we'll be passing this award around

like it's the Stanley Cup," said Maj. Charles Dunne, commanding officer, Recruiting Station, Columbia. "With 35 new recruiters this past year at our RS, they did an outstanding job of being flexible, professional, maintaining a high quality of control and making Marines."

Each year the Marine Corps must seek out approximately 40,000 new recruits to replenish its ranks. In

FY03 the Marine Corps contracted 39,102 young men and women, exceeding its established goal of 36,405 enlistees by 3.5 percent. The Marine Corps has met its monthly contracting goal every month since July 1995, a tremendous achievement in its own right.

A complete list of the FY03 superior achievers follows:

- RS Albany
- RS New Jersey
- RS New York
- RS Portsmouth
- RS Springfield
- RS Harrisburg
- RS Baltimore
- RS Detroit
- RS Richmond
- RS Frederick
- RS Atlanta
- RS Orlando
- RS Fort Lauderdale
- RS Columbia
- RS Denver
- RS Fort Worth
- RS Phoenix
- RS San Antonio
- RS Chicago
- RS Indianapolis
- RS Kansas City
- RS Lansing
- RS St. Louis
- RS Los Angeles
- RS Portland
- RS Sacramento
- RS San Diego
- RS San Francisco
- RS Seattle
- RS Orange

PIFD receives new ‘user-friendly’ fire engine, ambulance

Cpl. Jennifer Brofer
STAFF WRITER

The Parris Island Fire Department recently added a brand-new \$200,000 fire engine and \$80,000 ambulance to its arsenal, to better aid firefighters and paramedics in responding to injuries, fires, hazardous materials, weapons of mass destruction, high-angle rescues, confined space rescues and mass casualty situations.

The ambulance was replaced because it exceeded its maximum use of three years or 50,000 miles. The old fire engine was switched to a "reserve" engine, as opposed to a "frontline" engine, because it had been in use for more than 20 years, but is now mainly used for controlling brush fires.

The 20-year-old engine was replaced by one that is more technologically advanced, which

firefighters say is "more user-friendly."

"It won't break down as much, and it's better equipped with better pumps," said Capt. Dwight Charleston, engine captain for the PIFD. "It has newer technology, so it's going to work better than the older stuff. It releases 1,250 gallons of water per minute and carries 550 gallons of water in the tank, which is good for four minutes of operations until we get hooked up to a hydrant."

According to firefighters, the engine meets the newer federal standards of the National Fire Protection Association, and also has more safety amenities.

"It has a lot more crash safety features to better withstand impact in a crash or rollover," said Troy Morgan, firefighter at the PIFD. "It has more room and a lot more computer upgrades to make the

driver operations easier."

The engine also has advanced life support and a paramedic on board at all times, added Charleston. This way, the engine can be used to respond to medical calls and provide treatment when both ambulances are already in use, until an ambulance arrives to transport the injured victims.

Aside from improving overall efficiency, the engine and ambulance also helped boost the morale of the crew at the PIFD.

"It's just nice to have new equipment," said Charleston. "The new fire truck has really improved morale. After a while you get really tired of working on old equipment that you have to fix all the time. It's like when you go out and buy a new car. It's the same feeling."

The only thing missing is the new car smell.



Cpl. Jennifer Brofer

The Parris Island Fire Department's new \$200,000 fire engine, Engine 1, comes equipped with better features that help improve the overall efficiency of the crew when responding to fires, injuries and other emergency situations.

PMI/Coach of the Week



Cpl. Alisha R. Fitzgerald

Inchon Range Coach Sgt. Abram Negrete helped qualify 15 recruits on the rifle range from Platoon 3098, Kilo Co., 3rd RTBn., to become this week's Coach of the Week. Negrete coached eight experts, two sharpshooters and five marksmen. Primary Marksmanship Instructor Staff Sgt. Dexter Bazer (not pictured) led 96.8 percent of recruits from Platoon 3097, Kilo Co., 3rd RTBn., to rifle qualification, earning him the title PMI of the Week. The platoon achieved an average score of 207.5.

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